(b) the proposed plans to speed up the construction and developmental activities in this regard; and

(c) whether Government have any plans to encourage private co-operative societies or other agencies to build houses in order to meet the fast growing needs of the people and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) and (b) Under the 'Basic Services to the Urban Poor' (BSUP), a sub-mission under the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) launched on 3.12.2005 and being implemented in select 63 cities, houses at affordable costs for slum dwellers/urban poor/Economically Weaker Section/Low Income Group categories are to be provided through demand driven projects submitted by States/Urban Local Bodies. In all other cities/ towns, an Integrated Housing and Slum Development Programme (IHSDP) is being implemented.

(c) The existing National Housing and Habitat Policy, 1998 provides that co-operative sector is to be given preference in allotment of land and house sites to encourage group housing by this sector. The Private and Co-operative agencies would undertake an active role in terms of land assembly, construction of houses and development of amenities within the projects.

IAS bureaucrats in Prasar Bharati and Doordarshan

†1086. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that I.A.S. bureaucrats have been appointed to the highest posts in Prasar Bharati and Doordarshan;

(b) if so, the reasons for taking this decision;

(c) whether it is a fact that now Government have taken decision to appoint professionals on the subject relating to the post; and

(d) if so, the facts thereof and the benefits likely to accrue as a result of this decision?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As on date Chief Executive Officer (Prasar Bharati), Director General (Doordarshan) and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Director General (All India Radio) are held by I.A.S. Officers. However, these appointments have been made in accordance with the Prasar Bharati Act/the Recruitment Rules for the posts.

(c) and (d) Recruitment Rules for the posts in Prasar Bharati have been framed, keeping in view the requirements of the organisation and the incumbents are recruited in accordance to the existing rules.

F.M. Radio Station in Kerala

1087. SHRI K.E. ISMAIL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state

(a) by when an FM Radio Station in Kerala would be installed;

(b) whether Government have identified the areas where F.M. Radio Stations would be set up in Kerala;

(c) if so, the details of the proposal for setting up an FM Radio Station at Manjerry, Malappuram and whether this project is under execution now; and

(d) by when it is likely to be commissioned?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) to (d) Three FM transmitters of All India Radio are proposed to be set up during Tenth Five year Plan in Kerala at Konni (5 KW FM Tr.) Trivandrum (10 KW FM Tr.) and Cochin (10 KW FM Tr.) The implementation of above schemes is subject to, among other things, availability of funds and sanctioning of staff. A 3 KW FM transmitter at Manjerry has been commissioned *w.e.f.* 28.01.2006 (single shift). However there is no proposal to set up AIR FM Station at Malappuram as it is covered by Manjerry FM Station

On the private FM side, letters of intent haye been issued to private companies to set up 13 FM Radio channels in Kerala at Thiruvananthapuram, Kozikode, Cochin and Thrissur. No Private FM Radio channel is planned to be established at Manjerry and Malappuram.

New T.V. channels

1088 SHRI THENNALA G. BALAKRISHNA PILLAI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of television channels approved, so far, for telecasting;

(b) the names and details of the channels; and